



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 151

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2005

No. 10

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2005, at 2 p.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2005

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Rev. John Holt of the Rhode Island State Council of Churches in Providence, RI.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

O God, on this day of prayer, we ask: Who will find their way home to You?

If we listen, O God, You tell us: The ones who seek to do right, the ones who speak heart-felt truth, the ones whose tongues know not slander, the ones who inflict no evil upon friends, will find their way home to You.

O God, on this day of prayer, we wonder: Who will be lifted up to Your holy heavens?

If we listen, O God, You tell us: The ones who walk with integrity, the ones who love their neighbor, the ones who hold fast to their word, the ones who embrace the innocent, will be lifted up on high.

O God, on this day of prayer: we hope: That those who serve in the Senate, that those who live in our land, that those who are our friends, and those who are our enemies, will seek to live within Your will.

For we know, O God, that those who live as You desire, shall abide in Your presence. They shall not be moved, not now, not ever. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the hour that I have been given to the Senator from Maryland for distribution in morning business.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask the Chair how much time is remaining on both sides for the Gonzales nomination?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. There are 8 hours remaining on the nomination.

Mr. REID. Is it equally divided?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair's understanding is that it is equally divided all the way through the day.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there shall be a period for the transaction of morning business for 2 hours, with the first hour

under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee and the second hour under the control of the majority leader or his designee.

The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I yield 1 minute to the Senator from Rhode Island. I understand the Chaplain is a constituent of his.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Rhode Island is recognized.

WELCOME TO GUEST CHAPLAIN JOHN HOLT

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise to recognize my friend John Holt, who is one of the great leaders of our faith community in Rhode Island. In many dimensions, his efforts have made our State a much better place, more decent, more noble, and more caring. He is somebody who recognizes that faith is not just words but it is actions, and each day he tries to put those faithful actions into the lives of the people of Rhode Island. With great pride, it is a pleasure and a real privilege to recognize today his serving as the Chaplain of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Maryland is recognized.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, as the senior Democratic woman of the Senate, I rise to tell my colleagues today that we, the Democratic women of the Senate, want to take the floor together and unanimously stand up for Social

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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